

# **EXHIBIT 1**



CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY®

## Notice of Service of Process

null / ALL  
Transmittal Number: 13054305  
Date Processed: 10/14/2014

**Primary Contact:** Rebecca M. Lewis  
Nationwide Insurance  
One Nationwide Plaza, 1-30-403  
Columbus, OH 43215

**Copy of transmittal only provided to:** Kevin Jones  
Cassandra Struble

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<b>Entity:</b>	Nationwide Property And Casualty Insurance Company Entity ID Number 3286574
<b>Entity Served:</b>	Nationwide Property and Casualty Insurance Company
<b>Title of Action:</b>	Ricardo Yepez vs. Nationwide Property and Casualty Insurance Company
<b>Document(s) Type:</b>	Citation/Petition
<b>Nature of Action:</b>	Contract
<b>Court/Agency:</b>	Webb County District Court, Texas
<b>Case/Reference No:</b>	2014CVF001242D2
<b>Jurisdiction Served:</b>	Texas
<b>Date Served on CSC:</b>	10/14/2014
<b>Answer or Appearance Due:</b>	10:00 am Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after service
<b>Originally Served On:</b>	CSC
<b>How Served:</b>	Certified Mail
<b>Sender Information:</b>	Robert A. Pollom 210-490-7402

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Information contained on this transmittal form is for record keeping, notification and forwarding the attached document(s). It does not constitute a legal opinion. The recipient is responsible for interpreting the documents and taking appropriate action.

**To avoid potential delay, please do not send your response to CSC**  
*CSC is SAS70 Type II certified for its Litigation Management System.*  
2711 Centerville Road Wilmington, DE 19808 (888) 690-2882 | [sop@cscinfo.com](mailto:sop@cscinfo.com)

**SERVE**

2014CVF001242D2

**CITATION**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF WEBB**

**NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT:** "YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY DO NOT FILE A WRITTEN ANSWER WITH THE CLERK WHO ISSUED THIS CITATION BY 10:00 A.M. ON THE MONDAY NEXT FOLLOWING THE EXPIRATION OF TWENTY DAYS AFTER YOU WERE SERVED THIS CITATION AND PETITION, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU."

**TO: NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY  
BY SERVINT ITS REGISTERED AGENT,  
CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
211 E 7<sup>th</sup> STREET, SUITE 620  
AUSTIN, TX 78701**

**DEFENDANT, IN THE HEREINAFTER STYLED AND NUMBERED CAUSE, YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE 111<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT of Webb County, Texas, to be held at the said courthouse of said county in the city of Laredo, Webb County, Texas, by filing a written answer to the Original Petition of Plaintiff at or before 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of service thereof, a copy of which accompanies this citation, in the Cause #: 2014CVF001242D2, styled:**

**RICARDO YEPEZ, PLAINTIFF  
VS.**

**NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, DEFENDANT**

Said Plaintiff's Original Petition was filed on 6/19/2014 in said court by:  
**ROBERT A POLLOM, ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
16500 SAN PEDRO, SUITE 302  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78232**

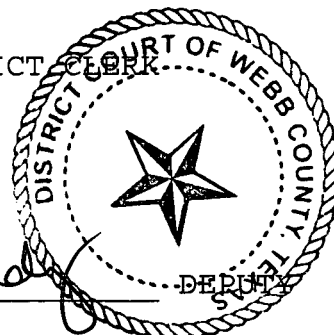
**WITNESS ESTHER DEGOLLADO, DISTRICT CLERK OF WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS, Issued and given under my hand and seal of said court at office, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.**

**C L E R K O F C O U R T**

ESTHER DEGOLLADO  
WEBB COUNTY DISTRICT CLERK  
P.O. BOX 667  
LAREDO, TX 78042

BY:

*Ana M Hernandez*  
**ANA M HERNANDEZ**



Filed  
6/19/2014 4:36:07 PM  
Esther Degollado  
District Clerk  
Webb District  
2014CVF001242D2

CAUSE NO. 2014CVF001242 D2

RICARDO YEPEZ

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

V.

th  
III JUDICIAL DISTRICT

NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND  
CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

**PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Plaintiff RICARDO YEPEZ, files this Original Petition against Nationwide Property and Casualty Insurance Company ("NATIONWIDE" or the "INSURANCE DEFENDANT"), and in support thereof, would show as follows:

**I.**

**DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN LEVEL**

Plaintiff intends for discovery to be conducted under Level 3 of Rule 190 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. This case involves complex issues and will require extensive discovery. Therefore, Plaintiff will ask the Court to order that discovery be conducted in accordance with a discovery control plan tailored to the particular circumstances of this suit.

**II.**

**PARTIES AND SERVICE**

Plaintiff resides in Webb County, Texas.

Defendant Nationwide is in the business of insurance in the State of Texas. The insurance business done by INSURANCE DEFENDANT in Texas includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- The making and issuing of contracts of insurance with the Plaintiff;

- The taking or receiving of application for insurance, including the Plaintiff's application for insurance;
- The receiving or collection of premiums, commissions, membership fees, assessments, dues or other consideration for any insurance or any part thereof, including any such consideration or payments from the Plaintiff; and
- The issuance or delivery of contracts of insurance to residents of this state or a person authorized to do business in this state, including the Plaintiff.

This defendant may be served with personal process, by its registered agent, Corporation Service Company, 211 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 620, Austin, Texas 78701, or wherever else it may be found.

### **III.**

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

Venue is appropriate in Webb County, Texas because all or part of the conduct giving rise to the causes of action were committed in Webb County, Texas and the Plaintiff and property which is the subject of this suit are located in Webb County, Texas.

Accordingly, venue is proper pursuant to Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code §15.002.

### **IV.**

### **FACTS**

Plaintiff is the owner of a Texas Homeowners' Insurance Policy (hereinafter referred to as "the Policy"), which was issued by INSURANCE DEFENDANT.

Plaintiff owns the insured property, which is specifically located at 505 Desert Chief, Laredo, Texas 78045 (hereinafter referred to as "the Property").

INSURANCE DEFENDANT sold the Policy insuring the Property to Plaintiff.

During the terms of said Policy, Plaintiff sustained covered losses in the form of wind and/or hail damage and damages resulting therefrom, and Plaintiff timely reported same to Defendants pursuant to the terms of the Policy. Plaintiff asked that INSURANCE

DEFENDANT cover the cost of repairs to the Property pursuant to the Policy. INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to conduct a full, fair and adequate investigation of Plaintiff's covered damages.

As detailed in the paragraphs below, INSURANCE DEFENDANT wrongfully denied Plaintiff's claim for repairs to the Property, even though the Policy provided coverage for losses such as those suffered by Plaintiff. Furthermore, INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to pay Plaintiff's claim by not providing full coverage for the damages sustained by Plaintiff.

To date, INSURANCE DEFENDANT continues to delay in the payment for the damages to the Property.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to perform its contractual duty to adequately compensate Plaintiff under the terms of their Policy. Specifically, INSURANCE DEFENDANT refused to pay the full proceeds of the Policy after conducting an outcome-oriented investigation, although due demand was made for proceeds to be paid in an amount sufficient to cover the damaged property, and all conditions precedent to recovery under the Policy have been carried out and accomplished by Plaintiff. INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes a breach of the insurance contract between it and Plaintiff.

Pleading further, INSURANCE DEFENDANT misrepresented to Plaintiff that the damage to the Property was not covered under the Policy, even though the damage was caused by a covered occurrence. INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(1).

INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to make an attempt to settle Plaintiff's claim in a fair manner, although it was aware of its liability to Plaintiff under the Policy. Its conduct

constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(2)(A).

INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to explain to Plaintiff any valid reason for its coverage denial and offer of an inadequate settlement. Specifically, it failed to offer Plaintiff full compensation, without any valid explanation why full payment was not being made. Furthermore, INSURANCE DEFENDANT did not communicate that any future settlements or payments would be forthcoming to pay for the entire loss covered under the Policy, nor did it provide any explanation for the failure to adequately settle Plaintiff's claim. INSURANCE DEFENDANT conduct is a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(3).

INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to meet its obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding timely acknowledging Plaintiff's claim, beginning an investigation of Plaintiff's claim, and requesting all information reasonably necessary to investigate Plaintiff's claim within the statutorily mandated time of receiving notice of Plaintiff's claim. Its conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. TEX. INS. CODE §542.055.

Further, INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to accept or deny Plaintiff's full and entire claim within the statutorily mandated time of receiving all necessary information. Its conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. TEX. INS. CODE §542.056.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT failed to meet its obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding payment of claims without delay. Specifically, it has delayed full payment of Plaintiff's claim and, to date, Plaintiff has not received full payment for the claim. Its conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. TEX. INS. CODE §542.058.

From and after the time Plaintiff's claim was presented to INSURANCE DEFENDANT, its liability to pay the full claim in accordance with the terms of the Policy was reasonably clear. However, it has refused to pay Plaintiff in full, despite there being no basis whatsoever upon which a reasonable insurance company would have relied to deny the full payment. INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes a breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing.

Additionally, INSURANCE DEFENDANT knowingly or recklessly made false representations, as described above, as to material facts and/or knowingly concealed all or part of material information from Plaintiff.

Because of INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S wrongful acts and omissions, Plaintiff was forced to retain the professional services of the attorney and law firm who is representing Plaintiff with respect to these causes of action.

**V.**

**CAUSES OF ACTION AGAINST INSURANCE DEFENDANT**

**A. BREACH OF CONTRACT**

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes a breach of the insurance contract between it and Plaintiff. Defendant's failure and/or refusal, as described above, to pay Plaintiff adequate compensation as it is obligated to do under the terms of the Policy in question, and under the laws of the State of Texas, constitutes a breach of the insurance contract with Plaintiff.



**B. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH TEXAS INSURANCE CODE:**

**1. UNFAIR SETTLEMENT PRACTICES**

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes multiple violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices: TX. INS. CODE §541.060(a). All violations under this article are made actionable by TEX. INS. CODE §541.151.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S unfair settlement practice, as described above, of misrepresenting to Plaintiff material facts relating to the coverage at issue, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(1).

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S unfair settlement practice, as described above, of failing to attempt in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of the claim, even though its liability under the Policy was reasonably clear, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(2)(A).

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S unfair settlement practice, as described above, of refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation, constitutes an unfair method of competition and an unfair and deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance. TEX. INS. CODE §541.060(a)(7).

**2. THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF CLAIMS**

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes multiple violations of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. All violations made under this article are made actionable by TEX. INS. CODE §542.060.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S failure to acknowledge receipt of Plaintiff's claim, commence investigation of the claim, and request from Plaintiff all items, statements, and forms that it reasonably believed would be required within the applicable time constraints, as described above, constitutes a non-prompt payment of claims and a violation of TEX. INS. CODE §542.055.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S failure to notify Plaintiff in writing of its acceptance or rejection of the claim within the applicable time constraints constitutes a non-prompt payment of the claim. TEX. INS. CODE §542.056.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S delay of the payment of Plaintiff's claim following its receipt of all items, statements, and forms reasonably requested and required, longer than the amount of time provided for, as described above, constitutes a non-prompt payment of the claim. TEX. INS. CODE §542.058.

**C. BREACH OF THE DUTY OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING**

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S conduct constitutes a breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing owed to insureds pursuant to insurance contracts.

INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S failure, as described above, to adequately and reasonably investigate and evaluate Plaintiff's claim, although, at that time, it knew or should have known by the exercise of reasonable diligence that its liability was reasonably clear, constitutes a breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing.

**VI.  
KNOWLEDGE**

Each of the acts described above, together and singularly, was done "knowingly" by INSURANCE DEFENDANT as that term is used in the Texas Insurance Code, and was a producing cause of Plaintiff's damages described herein.

**VII.**  
**DAMAGES**

Plaintiff would show that all of the aforementioned acts, taken together or singularly, constitute the proximate and producing causes of the damages sustained by Plaintiff.

As previously mentioned, the damages caused by the covered losses have not been properly addressed or repaired in the months since the loss occurred, causing further damage to the Property, and causing undue hardship and burden to Plaintiff. These damages are a direct result of INSURANCE DEFENDANT'S mishandling of Plaintiff's claim in violation of the laws set forth above.

For breach of contract, Plaintiff is entitled to regain the benefit of the bargain, which is the amount of the claim, together with attorney's fees.

For noncompliance with the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices, Plaintiff is entitled to actual damages, which include the loss of the benefits that should have been paid pursuant to the policy, court costs, and attorney's fees. For knowing conduct of the acts described above, Plaintiff asks for three times the actual damages. TEX. INS. CODE §541.152.

For noncompliance with the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims, Plaintiff is entitled to the amount of her claim, as well as eighteen (18) percent interest per annum on the amount of such claim as damages, together with attorney's fees. TEX. INS. CODE §542.060.

For breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages, including all forms of loss resulting from the insurer's breach of duty, such as additional costs, losses due to nonpayment of the amount the insurer owed, and exemplary damages.

For the prosecution and collection of this claim, Plaintiff has been compelled to engage the services of the attorney whose name is subscribed to this pleading. Therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to recover a sum for the reasonable and necessary services of Plaintiff's attorney in the preparation and trial of this action, including any appeals to the Court of Appeals and/or the Supreme Court of Texas.

### VIII.

In addition, as to any exclusion, condition, or defense pled by INSURANCE DEFENDANT, Plaintiff would show that:

The clear and unambiguous language of the policy provides coverage for damage caused by losses made the basis of Plaintiff's claim, including the cost of access to fix the damages;

In the alternative, any other construction of the language of the policy is void as against public policy;

Any other construction and its use by the INSURANCE DEFENDANT violates the Texas Insurance Code section 541 et. seq. and is void as against public policy;

Any other construction is otherwise void as against public policy, illegal, and violates state law and administrative rule and regulation.

In the alternative, should the Court find any ambiguity in the policy, the rules of construction of such policies mandate the construction and interpretation urged by Plaintiff;

In the alternative, INSURANCE DEFENDANT is judicially, administratively, or equitably estopped from denying Plaintiff's construction of the policy coverage at issue;

In the alternative, to the extent that the wording of such policy does not reflect the true intent of all parties thereto, Plaintiff pleads the doctrine of mutual mistake requiring information.

**IX.**  
**REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURES**

Pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 194, Plaintiff requests that INSURANCE DEFENDANT provide the information required in a Request for Disclosure.

**X.**

As required by Rule 47(b), Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff's counsel states that the damages sought are in an amount within the jurisdictional limits of this Court. As required by Rule 47(c), Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff's counsel states that Plaintiff seeks monetary relief, the maximum of which is over \$100,000 but not more than \$200,000. The amount of monetary relief actually awarded, however, will ultimately be determined by a jury. Plaintiff also seeks pre-judgment and post-judgment interest at the highest legal rate.

**XI.**  
**PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff requests that INSURANCE DEFENDANT be cited to appear and answer herein; that, on final hearing, Plaintiff have judgment against INSURANCE DEFENDANT for an amount, deemed to be just and fair by the jury, which will be a sum within the jurisdictional limits of this Court; for costs of suit; for interest on the judgment; for pre-judgment interest; and, for such other and further relief, in law or in equity, either general or special, including the non-monetary relief of declaratory judgment against the INSURANCE DEFENDANT, to which Plaintiff may be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

KETTERMAN ROWLAND & WESTLUND  
16500 San Pedro, Suite 302  
San Antonio, Texas 78232  
Telephone: (210) 490-7402  
Facsimile: (210) 490-8372

BY: /s/ Robert A. Pollom

Robert A. Pollom  
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michellel@krwlawyers.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

**PLAINTIFF REQUESTS A TRIAL BY JURY**



ABEL SOLIZ  
CIVIL COURT COORDINATOR  
(956)523-4226

MONICA Z. NOTZON  
JUDGE, 111<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT  
1110 VICTORIA SUITE #301 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
LAREDO, TEXAS 78040  
OFFICE (956)523-4230  
FAX (956)523-5088

FERNANDO RAMOS  
BAILIFF  
(956)523-4227

June 21, 2014

CAUSE NO.: 2014CVF001242 D2

STYLE: RICARDO YEPEZ

VS

NATIONWIDE PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY

**NOTICE OF CALENDAR CALL**

Please take notice that this case is set for Calendar Call on 09/29/2014  
at 11:00 AM at the 111<sup>th</sup> District Court, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Webb County Justice Center.

All Calendar Call hearings will be in open Court and on the record before the Honorable Judge Monica Z. Notzon. Your presence is **MANDATORY** unless Counsel for Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s) have in place a pre-trial guideline order with both Counsel and Judge's signatures prior to calendar call date. This guideline order should have all appropriate dates including pre-trial, jury selection and all deadlines.

Counsel for Plaintiff(s) please note that if you do not appear for calendar call your case may be dismissed for lack of prosecution.

Counsel for Defendant(s) please note that if you do not appear for calendar call, a pre-trial guideline order may be entered with or without your approval and/or signature.

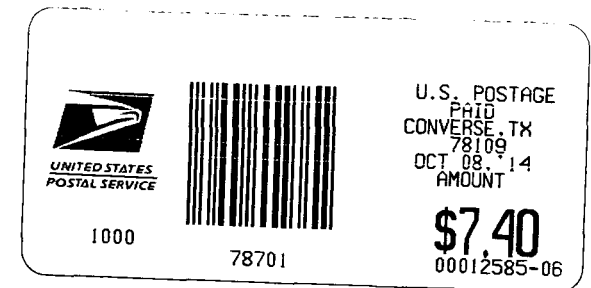
If there are any questions regarding this matter please feel free to call our office at any time.

A handwritten signature of Abel Soliz in black ink.

Abel Soliz  
Civil Court Coordinator  
111<sup>th</sup> District Court

DC: A handwritten signature of Fernando Ramos in black ink.

**BRAVO'S LEGAL PROCESSING**  
6531 FM 78, SUITE 110-479  
SAN ANTONIO, TX. 78244



NATIONWIDE PROPERTY & CASUALTY  
C/O CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY  
211 E. 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SUITE 620  
AUSTIN, TX 78701